



3716

GP 3751

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent application of Attorney Docket No.:
Rainer Hahner *et al.* 4070-63

Serial No.: 09/360,676 Group Art Unit:
Filed: July 26, 1999 3751

For: FUEL TANK WITH INCORPORATED Examiner:
DEFORMABLE RESERVOIR not yet assigned

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, submitted herewith
are copies of the references listed below and on the accompanying Form PTO-1449.

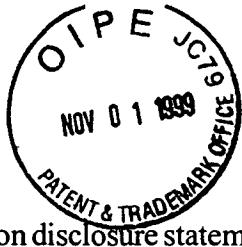
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before receipt of the first office action on the
merits. No certification, petition, or fee are required. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1). Further, the item of

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I hereby certify that this paper, along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed, is
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information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from the German Patent Office in counterpart application No. 198 33 698.5 dated August 18, 1999, which is not more than three months prior to the filing of this application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). Please charge any fee that is due, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-1135.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to review the reference identified herein and on the accompanying form PTO-1449 and make it of record in the instant application as required by MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that the references are material or that no better art exists.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT

Germany 196 50 244 A1

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CONCISE EXPLANATION PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3)

German Patent Application No. 196 50 244 relates to a surge pot to be disposed within the fuel tank of a motor vehicle. The surge pot is installed in the tank through an assembly opening. The surge pot has a bottom and a side wall, and can be changed between an assembly configuration of small cross-section, for passing through the assembly opening, and an operational configuration of larger cross-section.



The embodiment of Figure 1 is provided with an elastic portion 14 that in the operational configuration curves outwards, but can be curved to the inside to reduce the diameter of the surge pot in the assembly configuration. The embodiment of Figure 2 has a wall portion 16 that is connected to the body of the surge pot by a film hinge 17 and elastic portions 18. The embodiment of Figure 3 has a wall portion formed by a bellows 20, 21.

Respectfully submitted,

Rainer Hahner, et al.

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